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Bangalore Mirror

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Water quality analysis of 41 water bodies in city shows presence of toxic metals

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A water quality analysis of 41 water bodies in Bengaluru has thrown up several disturbing findings. Toxic metal levels in several water bodies studied exceeded the World Health Organisation's (WHO) safe limit for drinking purposes.

While the levels of heavy metals such as uranium, molybdenum, lead, chromium, copper, and cobalt, exceed WHO's water quality recommendations in 5% of these lakes, pH value exceeded the safe limit in 54% of the water bodies, total dissolved solid (TDS) was high in 63% of the water bodies studied and concentration of nickel was found to be high in 12% of the 41 lakes.

The study conducted by researchers from the Geological Survey of India and state unit Karnataka, Goa, Jaipur, Kolkata, and the University of South Carolina, USA also underlines that high levels of metals such as chromium, nickel, and lead pose high carcinogenic risks to adults and children.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

LIGHT AT END OF TUNNEL

Sharp decline in drug-related cases: Just 333 cases this year in big drop from 3,443 of 2023

PAGE 5

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3 THINGS TO DO

01 Musical tribute

On the occasion of his centenary birth anniversary, the Museum of Art & Photography (MAP) is honoured to celebrate the life, legacy, and music of Pandit Kumar Gandharva. Join in for 'Kalapini Komkali—Tribute to Pandit Kumar Gandharva,' an immersive journey into the world of the maestro, Pandit Kumar Gandharva, with his daughter and disciple, Sushri Kalapini Komkali—one of India's finest and most well-trained classical vocalists, who will seamlessly blend his timeless compositions with deeply personal anecdotes and memories.
Where: MAP, Mazumdar-Shaw Auditorium
When: October 4, 6:30 pm to 8 pm

02 Dandiya beats

Come and dance the night away with Swaradi Live and DJs Suprava Sarkar, Shad India & Beat Gurus, get creative with LED liquid drumming, be enthralled with 'Energie Dance Crew' and celebrate Dandiya in its most exciting avatar with a fusion of traditional energetic Dandiya beats with disco elements—like neon lights, disco balls, and a vibrant atmosphere. The event is set to hold extravagant entertainment, which is bound to get you in the festive mood.
Where: Lakeside Orion Mall @ Brigade Gateway
When: October 5, 4 pm onwards

03 Sarees: Traditions, stories & significance

Delve into the symbolic significance of the vibrant colours and intricate motifs, from the royal gold threads to the lush temple borders, through a storytelling session 'Weaving a Story,' a curated exploration of Kanjivaram silks by Aparna Jaishankar. Moreover, Lakshmi Sankar's private collection of sarees will be on display. Whether you're a lover of textiles, mythology, or just fascinated by Indian heritage, this event will wrap you in the magic of tradition.
Where: Atta Galatta, Indiranagar
When: October 6, 12:30 pm

Upcoming UG-NEET mop-ups will offer 596 medical seats

Eligible candidates can register for mop-up rounds from October 7-14; 18,726 COMEDK seats are still lying vacant in private engineering colleges

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) on Tuesday announced that a total of 596 medical seats, including those reserved, will be available for the upcoming mop-up round after the completion of the second round of seat allotment. "Eligible candidates interested in participating in the UG-NEET 2024 mop-up round must pay the medical course fee deposit in advance. Candidates who had paid the caution deposit in the second round but did not secure any medical seats must pay the remaining amount after deducting the caution deposit already paid. They can pay online or by downloading the challan between October 5 and 8. Such candidates will be able to register for the mop-up round from October 7 to 14," officials explained.

If a medical seat is allotted to the candidate in the mop-up round, the paid deposit will be adjusted towards the medical course fee. However, if a candidate fails to join the allotted college, decides to cancel their seat, or does not report to the college, their deposit will be forfeited. Such candidates will also face penalties and will not be eligible to participate in medical counselling for the following year, including All India counselling, officials warned. The deposit paid for other courses will not be considered as the medical course fee deposit, officials clarified.

'Candidates who were not allotted any medical seats in the 1st & 2nd rounds and those whose seats were cancelled due to non-payment of the caution deposit can participate in the mop-up round if interested in the available medical seats'

Eligibility details

Candidates who were not allotted any medical seats in the first and second rounds and those whose seats were cancelled due to non-payment of the caution deposit can participate in the mop-up round if they are interested in the available medical seats. Candidates who were allotted dental seats in the UG-NEET 2024 through KEA can only participate in the medical seat allotment. However, they are not eligible to choose dental seats again, nor are they eligible to select AYUSH seats. Candidates must regularly check the KEA website for updates on fee deposit details and other instructions. Information on mop-up seat allotment for dental and AYUSH courses will be announced later.

Decline in admissions under COMEDK quota

The number of students securing admissions under the Consortium of Medical, Engineering, and Dental Colleges of Karnataka (COMEDK) quota in Karnataka's private engineering colleges has been steadily declining year after year. Due to the rising fees in private colleges, many students are opting for seats through the Common Entrance Test (CET) quota to avoid high costs, resulting in a significant number of COMEDK seats remaining vacant. The COMEDK 2024 engineering counselling concluded with only 7,647 out of 26,373 available seats being filled, leaving 18,726 seats vacant. This trend mirrors previous years, with more seats being made available and a corresponding increase in unfilled seats. In 2022, 5,311 out of 18,460 seats were filled.

Students said that the state government continues to increase fees for professional courses each year, making it difficult for students from lower and middle-income families to afford private college seats. In 2023, COMEDK fees rose from RS 1.69 lakh to RS 2.37 lakh, and in 2024, they further increased to Rs 1.86 lakh to Rs 2.61 lakh. This yearly fee hike has deterred students from opting for seats in private colleges. However, students with lower ranks in the CET, who are certain they won't secure good colleges through that route, turn to COMEDK as a fallback option.

Comparison of engineering course fees (2024)
Government Quota:
₹76,135 to ₹84,596
(Unaided engineering colleges can charge an additional fee of up to Rs 20,000.)

COMEDK Quota:
₹1.86 lakh to ₹2.61 lakh

Grievously injured spectacled cobra gets second go at life

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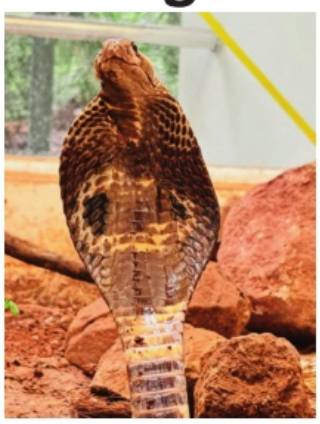
A majestic spectacled cobra, later named Scarface, was rescued by the People for Animals (PFA) team after suffering severe injuries and life-threatening damage at a construction site in KS Town.

Following the prompt arrival of a PFA volunteer, the cobra, found in critical condition and fighting for her life, was quickly transported to the PFA Wildlife Hospital. An initial examination revealed the extent of Scarface's injuries, which included a large laceration on her head, exposing her trachea and oesophagus, and significant internal damage. Her fangs were also badly damaged.

Given the seriousness of the injuries, the situation looked grim, and the chances of survival were slim. She was immediately put under anaesthesia for a complex and high-risk reconstruction surgery. The veterinary team spent hours meticulously suturing the deep wound, taking care to protect her vital organs. While the surgery was successful, the road to recovery was a lengthy one. Following the operation, Scarface required intensive post-operative care. She was placed on a strict course of antibiotics and painkillers to prevent infection and manage her pain. Moreover, her damaged oesophagus made it impossible for her to eat on her own. The PFA team had to tube-feed her a special diet, including whole eggs enriched with calcium and multivitamins, every four to five days.



The hospital also housed Scarface in a specially designed enclosure, where temperature, humidity, and UVB light were carefully regulated. "Snakes, especially cobras, rely on external heat sources to heal. The team provided regular sunbathing sessions to aid in Scarface's recovery," said a PFA representative.

Over the next nine months, Scarface showed incredible resilience. Her wounds gradually healed, and her strength returned. Her trachea and oesophagus, once exposed, began to recover, and even her fangs started to regenerate. What once seemed like an impossible recovery was now within sight.

"Each day brought small victories. Scarface's progress is a testament to her will to survive and the dedication of our team," said a PFA veterinarian. New beginnings await Scarface now. In just three more months, she will be released back into the wild, marking a significant milestone in her journey.

When the street becomes a venue for education, culture, fun and frolic for citizens

VK Street Sambhrama at Jayanagar a Grand Success

Vijaya Karnataka, the state's leading newspaper, hosted the vibrant VK Street Sambhrama today in collaboration with the Youth Association, celebrating Dasara in style. Held on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, the event was a resounding success, filled with fun, learning, and excitement for attendees of all ages. The event witnessed an overwhelming response from the local community, with participants hailing it as one of the best-organized events in recent memory.

From early morning until evening, VK Street Sambhrama transformed the streets of Jayanagar into a bustling hub of cultural, educational, and entertainment activities. With a carefully curated lineup of events designed to cater to all age groups, the day offered something for everyone – from educational games to thrilling competitions and engaging performances. The festive atmosphere kept the energy alive throughout the day, making it a memorable occasion for the attendees.

A Day of Learning, Fun, and Festivities

The event began with a series of activities aimed at promoting education and environmental awareness. Children and adults alike participated in various science-related games, including the Eco Trivia Challenge, a recycling relay race, and home composting workshops. The activities focused on highlighting the importance of eco-friendly practices, drawing enthusiastic participation from the crowd. "We loved the eco-friendly games," said Nisha, a college student who participated in the recycling relay race. "It was both fun and educational. I never realized how simple changes in our daily habits can make such a big impact on the environment. This event made learning enjoyable!"

For those with a creative flair, competitions in rangoli, calligraphy, and rapid art provided an opportunity to showcase their talents. Face painting, jembe performances, and music bands added to the artistic vibe of the event, with several young artists expressing their joy at being able to participate in such a large-scale celebration. "I have attended many art competitions, but this one was special," said Aditya, a participant in the rapid art competition. "The organization was top-notch, and the support from the audience was overwhelming. It truly felt like a community celebration."

Entertainment galore

The entertainment quotient was high throughout the day, with various performances keeping the audience engaged. Local music bands took to the stage, captivating the crowd with their lively performances. The rhythmic beats of the jembe filled the air as spectators gathered to enjoy the vibrant sounds. As the afternoon rolled in, a dandiya dance session brought participants together, with both children and adults joining in to celebrate the festive spirit of Dasara. The dandiya session was one of the highlights of the day, drawing cheers and applause from onlookers. "Participating in the dandiya dance was the highlight of my day," said Meera, a local resident. "The atmosphere was electric, and everyone was in high spirits. It was wonderful to see people from different age groups come together and enjoy the moment."

Grand finale

As the sun set, the excitement only grew. The highly anticipated performance by Beat Guru and his team, which began at 6:00 PM, had the audience on their feet. With their high-energy beats and dynamic stage presence, Beat Guru delivered a thrilling performance that kept the crowd dancing. "This event has been incredible! I've attended several festivals, but this one stands out for its perfect mix of fun, learning, and entertainment," said Rohan, a participant who stayed until the end. "The performances, the competitions, everything was so well-organized. I'm already looking forward to next year's event."

Praise for good show

The VK Street Sambhrama not only entertained but also earned praise for its seamless organization. Attendees were quick to commend the efforts of Vijaya Karnataka and the Youth Association for putting together such a well-structured and engaging event. The meticulous planning ensured that there was never a dull moment, with activities and performances running smoothly throughout the day. "The organizers have done an outstanding job. The event was planned with such attention to detail, and everything went off without a hitch," said Suresh, a local business owner who attended the event with his family. "It's rare to find an event that appeals to all age groups, but VK Street Sambhrama managed to do just that."

Looking ahead

With participants hailing VK Street Sambhrama as one of the best-organized events in recent times, the success of this year's celebration has set high expectations for future editions.

Starry show

Popular Kannada actress Shwetha Prasad graced the event. She shared her excitement of seeing such a huge gathering with the place brimming with fun and frolic for young and old. She also participated in a few fun activities and posed for pictures with all her fans.

Streets of Jayanagar turned into a bustling hub of cultural, educational, and entertainment events on the occasion of VK Street Sambhrama on Wednesday. The event began with educative events and concluded with entertaining shows

Turning tide on plastic: 'Own bag or pay up'

Residents of Cambridge Layout, supported by BBMP and volunteers, launch drive to reduce pollution by providing vendors with cloth and paper bags

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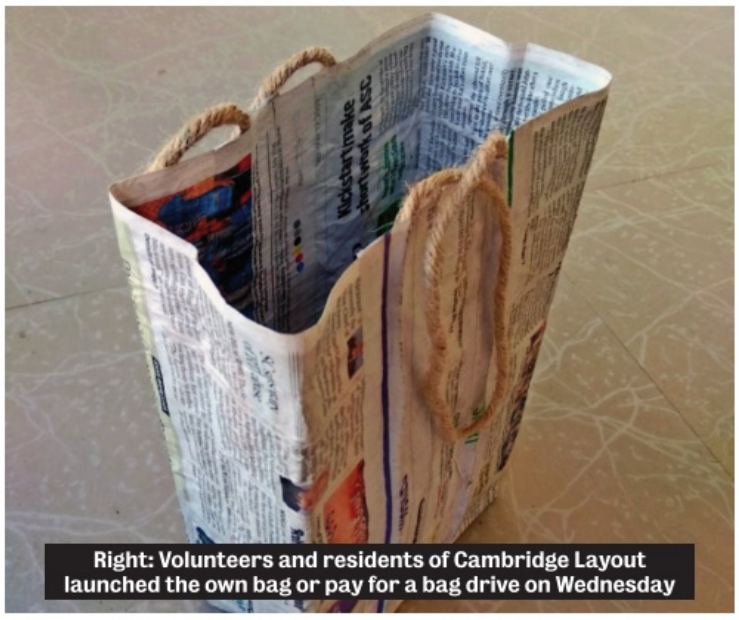

Right: Volunteers and residents of Cambridge Layout launched the own bag or pay for a bag drive on Wednesday

> "The initiative was launched at Domlur last month and it has received good support from street vendors & shop owners – Shiva KV, activist

While plastic pollution continues to affect streets and drains, residents of Cambridge Layout are taking proactive steps to address the issue. Approximately 30 residents, along with Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike and volunteers, have initiated the 'own bag or pay for a bag' drive to reduce plastic use in their area.

Srinivasa Murthy, leading the initiative at Cambridge Layout with the Resident Welfare Association, Core Team, and Someshwarapura Association members, explained that every vendor, whether a cart or a shop, received placards along with an initial free set of 10 cloth bags, which they can sell for a profit. "Vendors showed interest when we explained this will help them save money. Making Cambridge Layout free from plastic is our dream. I think we are in the right direction," Srinivasa Murthy said, adding that RWA members would monitor the programme in association with BBMP Marshals.

The drive marks the second phase in Domlur ward, following a similar initiative launched at Domlur Layout in September, which has already yielded positive results. BBMP Assistant Executive Engineer Ravikumar expressed the BMP's support for the campaign at Cambridge Layout, noting its higher chances of success due to the incentive for vendors to earn by avoiding banned items."The added factor is active resident involvement, and we will continue to jointly monitor," he said.

Odette Katrak of Beautiful Bharat stated that she views this model as a game changer, as it provides a pull factor for vendors to stop using plastic and transition to selling bags for their financial benefit. It also encourages customers to remember to bring their own bags moving forward. "Once there is a strong incentive or consequence, behaviour change becomes more likely. I have been monitoring this intervention in Domlur in the last few weeks with insights on what can make this change permanent. Follow-up measures will be taken including monitoring the vendors during the coming days. Messaging going out on resident groups too will remind customers that something is about to change on plastic usage and they need to be a part of this," Odette Katrak said.

Srinivasa Murthy said that they chose October 2 because of Gandhi's focus on cleanliness. "Plastic bags add to litter and are used to dump mixed waste in our city corners. Through October, we will continue to remind residents and visitors to our temples from all over the city that plastic is no longer welcome in Cambridge Layout. We had already met the temple authorities and are happy to have their support," he said.

Odette Katrak said that placards with clear messaging are a critical part of such an intervention without which customers fight with vendors for free plastic bags. "Placards cost was sponsored by Trini, a clinic in the area, and cost of free bags by the RWA," she said.

The volunteers said that the residents are also being requested to play a role by reminding vendors during their shopping. They also pass on old newspapers, used online paper bags and advertisement fliers to vendors as a temporary measure till customers carry their own bags.

"The initiative was launched at Domlur last month and it has received good support from street vendors and shop owners. We want to extend it to Bangalore Development Authority quarters in Domlur ward shortly and later to Akshaya Layout," said Shiva Kumar V, a social activist.

A highlight was senior citizen KS Venugopal, who learned to make bags from folded newspapers after watching a YouTube video. He distributed these bags to vendors, stating, "I can make 20 bags in 45 minutes; it's not difficult at all." He expressed his happiness in contributing to the effort to encourage vendors to shift away from banned plastic bags.

Woman faces aggression from auto driver over fare dispute

A 24-year-old woman experienced harassment from an auto driver near Silk Board following a fare dispute early Sunday morning. The victim had travelled from Chennai and arrived at Silk Board around 5:15 am, where she began waiting for a cab. When no cabs were available, an auto driver approached her and offered to take her to her destination for ₹270, the same price as her Ola fare. However, when she agreed, he later insisted on charging her ₹300 instead.

The driver then told her to get into another auto, claiming that all the drivers in the area were like brothers. However, as they travelled from BTM to Bannerghatta Road, the victim noticed that the metre was activated and displayed an inflated fare of ₹340. When she questioned the fare, the driver claimed the metre was faulty and demanded one and a half times the original fare. His tone turned aggressive, and he began threatening her. Fearing for her safety, the woman recorded the incident but was too shaken to file a complaint immediately. However, on Wednesday, she reported the case to the MICO Layout police station. The police promptly conducted a spot inspection and analysed CCTV footage from the area. — BMB

New app to boost KRIDL fund management

In a step aimed towards improving the management of departmental funds and project development, Karnataka Rural Infrastructure Development Limited (KRIDL) has launched a new software application, Gandhi Sakshi Kayaka 2.0. Also known as the Work Monitoring System, this innovative tool was unveiled by the Minister of Rural Development, Panchayat Raj, and Information Technology, Priyank Kharge, on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.

According to an official statement, Gandhi Sakshi Kayaka 2.0 is designed to streamline the sanctioning and utilisation of funds for various projects, ensuring efficient accounting and monitoring of infrastructure works across the state. This initiative underscores KRIDL's commitment to enhancing transparency and effectiveness in rural development efforts.

Kharge stated, "Transparency in our operations is crucial for the KRIDL. The introduction of Gandhi Sakshi Kayaka 2.0, developed by our Centre for Smart Governance, will significantly enhance efficiency and accountability in our projects. This advanced software solution is a vital step towards achieving our commitment to better governance and effective service delivery."

KRIDL, an undertaking of the Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Government of Karnataka, has been a vital force in construction and infrastructure development across the state for over 51 years. — BMB

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Clean up pending

Victoria Layout

Garbage has been dumped on Palmgrove Cross Road in Victoria Layout, and despite multiple complaints, no action has been taken for the past 10 days.

Waste woes

Spice Garden Layout

Spice Garden Road is full of potholes, garbage, and animal faeces, posing a health risk to thousands of residents.

Traffic risk

Challaghatta

No safe crossing for commuters outside Challaghatta Metro Station on busy Mysore Road, with heavy traffic and no security in sight.

Bengaluru sees dramatic drop in drug seizures

City reports 333 drug cases in 2024, drop from 3,443 in 2023; commissioner notes 80% of foreign peddlers have been reported to prevent re-entry

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Bengaluru has witnessed a substantial drop in the number of reported drug-related cases in 2024. According to recent data from the city police, only 333 cases have been reported this year, a sharp decline from the 3,443 cases in 2023 and an even higher 4,027 cases in 2022.

Among the cases reported this year, 325 involved peddlers, while only eight were classified as consumer cases. The figures are striking compared to the previous year's total of 757 reported cases in March 2023 alone.

The volume of drugs seized also reflects this trend. In 2024, the total quantity of drugs confiscated stood at 938.268 kg, a notable reduction from the 5,387.845 kg seized in 2023. Law enforcement has arrested 416 Indian nationals and 45 foreigners in connection with these cases this year, compared to the previous year's 4,300 Indian arrests and 8 foreign nationals apprehended.

The Bengaluru police have recovered a variety of substances including ganja, brown sugar, opium, heroin, hashish oil, charas, cocaine, MDMA, ecstasy, Yaba tablets, and LSD stripes. This reflects the broad range of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances that continue to make their way into the city despite efforts to clamp down on supply routes.

Monthly breakdown

A closer look at the month-on-month data reveals that drug-related cases have consistently decreased throughout 2024. February saw 275 cases, followed by 370 cases in March. This is a significant decrease from March 2023, when 757 cases were recorded. In April 2024, the number of reported cases was 370, while in April 2023, that number was higher, at 470 cases.

May 2024 recorded 243 cases, significantly down from 442 in May 2023. The trend continued in June, where 322 cases were reported compared to the staggering 1,290 cases in June 2023. July and August followed suit with 354 and 436 cases respectively, starkly lower than the 819 and 725 cases reported during the same months last year.

Bengaluru Commissioner of Police B Dayananda urged the department to take strict action against drug trafficking, particularly in the eastern parts of the city, where a significant number of foreigners reside.

He noted that this might lead to the perception that drug-related issues are more prevalent in these areas. Commissioner Dayananda highlighted the presence of many foreign peddlers, especially from Africa, stating that merely filing cases would not create a substantial impact. Instead, the focus should be on reporting these individuals back to their countries. He mentioned that 80% of those involved have been reported, preventing them from re-entering India.

To combat drug abuse among the youth the police have initiated awareness programs. "We are conducting many awareness programs, there are many youngsters who are getting affected, especially the 18 to 25 age group, professional college going students and IT employees. Due to its easy availability and accessibility and also acceptance by society, they feel doing drugs is cool, this kind of western and modern adaptation leads to experimenting which turns into addiction," added Dayanada.

The police have been proactive in reaching out to schools, colleges, parents and teachers, providing education on the consequences of drug use.

BMB

HC grants ₹10 lakh to chess player for admission denial

The Karnataka High Court has ordered the State government to compensate Sanjana Raghunath, an international chess player, with Rs 10 lakh for denying her an MBBS seat in a government medical college under the sports quota, despite her eligibility. The judgement, passed on October 1 by a bench of Chief Justice NV Anjaria and Justice KV Aravind, found the State's actions to be arbitrary, causing Raghunath significant hardship and forcing her to take admission in a private seat.

The Court stated, "Due to the reasons recorded by the Court as above, the categorisation of the petitioner as P-V is on the face of it illegal.

The respondent authorities have committed serious errors either due to non-application of mind or the arbitrary exercise of the power. This action of the respondent authorities has deprived the petitioner's aspiration to pursue an MBBS Course under a Government seat reserved as a sports quota.

The Court has noted that the petitioner is pursuing an MBBS Course in a private seat. Due to the arbitrary action of the respondent authorities, the ambition of the parents and the student in pursuing sports activity to claim an incentive of

preference for admission is scattered."

Raghunath, who had won several competitions, including the Asian Youth Championship and the Commonwealth Chess Championship of 2018, challenged a circular issued by the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) in June 2023.

The circular required applicants to have participated and won in specific sports events between June 1, 2018, and May 31, 2023, to be eligible for the sports quota. Raghunath's participation and victory in the Asian Youth Championship in April 2018 fell outside the specified time frame, according to the KEA counsel.

Despite scoring well in the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test last year, Raghunath's application for admission in government seats under the sports quota was rejected by the KEA, forcing her to take a private seat and pay over Rs 11 lakh in fees.

The Court acknowledged the time, money, and academic sacrifices made by Raghunath in pursuing her sport and the pride she brought to the nation through her achievements. The Court also noted that the sports quota seats in the State medical colleges for the current academic year had already been filled and that disturbing the finalised admissions would be unwise.

High Court ordered the State to pay Raghunath Rs 10 lakh in compensation, stating, "Once the Court holds that the action of the respondent-State has resulted in suffering to the petitioner, applying the test of time constraints, the petitioner cannot be denied of redressal of sufferings. Once the remedy of admission under the sports quota is not viable, the other method to remedy the grievance is with adequate compensation."

Advocate Srikanth MP represented Raghunath.

Man arrested for firing pistol at party

A 59-year-old real estate businessman, Syed Altaf Ahmed, was arrested for firing six rounds into the air during a birthday celebration on September 22. The incident took place at a scrap godown on Bannerghatta Road, where accused Syed Altaf Ahmed attended the birthday party of Moin Khan along with other 200 members.

During the celebration, Ahmed recklessly fired multiple shots from his licensed pistol, which was captured on video and shared on Instagram by another guest, Zubair Khan Limra. The video quickly went viral, raising concerns over the dangerous use of firearms at social gatherings.

The Bengaluru Police's Social Media Wing spotted the video and promptly informed Deputy Commissioner of Police Srinivas Gowda from the Central Crime Branch (CCB). In response, the CCB police quickly identified the individuals involved, including Ahmed and Zubair Khan Limra, the account holder who posted the video. Altaf was arrested under Section 25(9) of the Arms Act for unlawfully discharging a firearm in a public space.

This incident has raised concerns about the increasing trend of reckless behaviour at social events. Officials are conducting an investigation, and the case has been forwarded to the 1st ACJM Court.

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‘There’s no information on illegal activities in Kali Tiger Reserve’

Tiger Conservation Authority responds to RTI query on alleged illegal construction, activities inside KTR; forest officials say things on premises are pro-conservation

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Responding to a right to information (RTI) query, the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) clarified that it has no information regarding the alleged illegal activities and constructions taken up inside Kali Tiger Reserve (KTR).

A RTI application was filed seeking copies of the approvals given by NTCA to the field director of KTR or the Chief Wildlife Warden of Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) for activities that have been alleged to be in deviation from the Tiger Conservation Plan (TCP) of the reserve approved by NTCA in 2015.

In response, NTCA stated that it has no information regarding the construction of Orchidarium at Nujji Nursery area; tourism activities at Basava Falls, Shivpur Hanging Bridge, and other spots in the core area of the tiger reserve; new trekking routes such as Castlerock to Dudhsagar Top, Tadaki APC to Tadaki Back Water, etc. Similarly for the boat safari being conducted by the department in Kali river backwaters; permission to tourists to visit the Blue Waterfalls area beside Anshi-Kadra Road; construction of a canopy walk and a jungle safari being conducted by the department in the Castlerock area.

Notably, wildlife activists and conservationists have time and again raised the issue of illegal construction and infrastructure development activities in the core areas of KTR. Photographic pieces of evidence along with written complaints have also been sent to the Principal Chief Conservator of KFD in the past. NTCA’s regional office, on multiple occasions in the past, also confirmed receipt of written complaints regarding some of the development activities inside KTR and informed BM that the agency has sought a factual report on the issue from the state government, followed by a series of reminders.

‘All these activities & structures will soon be added to Kali Tiger Reserve’s Tiger Conservation Plan’

> **None of structures that have come up in KTR, including Orchidarium, are hampering conservation; rather, they give impetus to this very cause** – Official

Structures & activities in KTR are pro-conservation: Officials

As per Project Tiger Guideline 2012, no new tourism or infrastructure development activities should be taken up in and around tiger reserves without due approvals. NTCA approves TCPs based on recommendations of the technical committee, and no deviations in TCPs are allowed without approval. Any deviation should first be brought forward for necessary evaluation and assessment by a joint team of NTCA and state government for strict compliance.

According to senior officials from KFD, the structures and activities being carried out in KTR are pro-conservation. However, the reserve’s TCP will soon be revised, and these activities will be included.

“None of the structures that have come up in KTR, including the Orchidarium, are hampering conservation; rather, they give impetus to the cause of conservation. KTR, apart from being a tiger reserve, is also famous for its evergreen forest and microfauna such as butterflies and insects. Through initiatives such as the Orchidarium, the biodiversity of the reserve will get a boost. They are all being taken up, keeping conservation as the focus. However, these activities and structures will soon be added to KTR’s TCP. We are revising the plan,” said an official.

Valmiki Corp probe transfer to CBI opposed

During a hearing at the Karnataka High Court on Monday, the state government opposed the Union Bank of India’s petition to transfer the investigation of the alleged multi-crore Valmiki Corporation irregularities case to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Senior advocate BV Acharya, representing the state, argued that allowing the CBI to take over the investigation would infringe upon the state’s federal authority, stating, “The CBI has no inherent power to entertain or investigate any case. The state’s powers cannot be interfered with by the central government. The police’s power is a statutory one and consistent with the Constitutional provisions. The CBI means the Union government.”

Acharya also pointed out that the central government was indirectly involved in the case through the CBI and Union Bank, despite not being an official party to the proceedings. The case, which involves the misappropriation of funds from the Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation, gained attention in May after the corporation’s accounts superintendent committed suicide, leaving a note accusing officials of mishandling welfare funds.

Following the allegations, the state government formed a special investigation team, while the Enforcement Directorate (ED) launched a separate inquiry. The ED’s investigation revealed that around Rs 90 crore had been illegally transferred from the Valmiki Corporation’s Union Bank account to unauthorised accounts. During the HC hearing, senior advocate Professor Ravivarma Kumar, representing the Valmiki corporation, called the bank’s petition a “proxy petition.”

Attorney General of India R Venkatramani, appearing on behalf of the Union Bank, addressed the argument about the CBI’s connection to the central government, stating, “What the RBI says is that the CBI is the only investigating authority in such cases. 35A is an overarching set of provisions, and any systemic risk to the banking functions will all fall under 35A.”

Justice Nagaprasanna has reserved his orders on the matter and will be considering two crucial points regarding the petition’s maintainability. **–BMB**

Citizens pay tribute to Gandhi with art, doll display

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

In a unique tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 155th birth anniversary, the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, in collaboration with the National Gallery of Modern Art and the Department of Kannada and Culture, Government of Karnataka, facilitated a platform for “Reclaim Constitution.” This event, held in Bengaluru, brought together citizens from diverse backgrounds to showcase a Constitution-themed doll display, symbolising India’s secular and inclusive spirit, and was organised by Reclaim Constitution, a Bengaluru-based collective of active citizens dedicated to fostering awareness of India’s constitutional values.

As India nears the 75th anniversary of its Constitution, the initiative invited participants to contribute doll miniatures that reflect the 22 iconic artworks featured in the original book of the Constitution. These artworks, created by renowned artists such as Nandalal Bose, celebrated India’s cultural heritage and constitutional values. “Through this exhibition, we hope to reinforce the values of coexistence and mutual respect, inviting citizens to reflect on the Preamble’s vision of a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic. Art is a powerful medium for fostering dialogue about constitutional values,” said Vinay Kumar, founder of Reclaim Constitution.

The doll display featured historical and cultural figures such as Jhansi Rani, Tipu Sultan, and Guru Gobind Singh, along with depictions of Akbar’s court, Nataraja, the Ancient University of Nalanda, and art from the Gupta period. Symbolic representations of the Himalayas, the Konark War Horses, and the Ocean were also included, offering a visual exploration of India’s diverse history. There was also a showcase of a remarkable Krishna idol,

The doll miniatures on display show the themes of the Constitution, history & more

meticulously crafted over 130 years ago. This wooden idol, with a rich history dating back to the early 1900s, holds the story of Panchalam Kuppuswamy Balakrishna Naidu, a devout Krishna devotee and son of PV Kuppuswamy Naidu, founder of the renowned Naidu & Sons Bakery and Confectioners in Shivaji Nagar, founded in 1888.

The highlight was the public display of five exquisitely handcrafted Krishna idols, the family’s most prized possessions. The event featured the joyous “utti,” the southern equivalent of dahi handi, and culminated with a grand pallaki, or chariot procession of Lord Krishna through the neighbourhood. People of all faiths joined in this annual celebration, creating a true community gathering.

Tousif Masood, a member of Reclaim Constitution, said, “The display provides a creative platform for citizens to engage with themes of secularism, diversity, and inclusivity, showcasing how people of different faiths, regions, and communities have long coexisted and contributed to India’s rich cultural tapestry. This is a celebration of India’s commitment to inclusive growth and harmony.”

‘Court of conscience’ above all, Siddaramaiah quotes Gandhi

Remark comes at a time when CM faces ED and Lokayukta probes in MUDA case

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar and other leaders take part in a march organised on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanthi, in Bengaluru, on Wednesday

Facing ED and Lokayukta probe over the Mysuru land allotment controversy, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday invoked Mahatma Gandhi and said the “court of conscience” was above all courts. The senior Congress leader also said Gandhi’s life and thoughts have given him courage, strength and hope in his “current struggle,” in an apparent reference to the respective agencies’ probe over the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) ‘scam’ pertaining to allotment of 14 sites to his wife, where the opposition is demanding for his resignation as CM.

“Mahatma Gandhi ji had said there is a highest court above all our courts and that is the court of conscience, it surpasses all the other courts.... sometimes everyone may not get justice from the courts, but I can clearly say that, as Gandhi ji said -- the courts we see cannot be above this court of conscience,” he said.

Addressing a Gandhi Jayanthi event organised by the ‘Gandhi Smaraka Nidhi’, Siddaramaiah said, “so all of us should try to conduct ourselves in accordance with our conscience, irrespective whether others like it or not, whether they oppose or appreciate, but we should try to work according to our conscience.” These remarks from the Chief Minister have come at a time when the twin investigations are on against him in the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) site allotment case, as per the direction of the courts.

The Lokayukta police on September 27 registered an FIR against Siddaramaiah, his wife Parvathi, brother-in-law Mallikarjuna Swamy, Devaraju -- from whom Mallikarjuna Swamy purchased land and gifted it to Parvathi -- and others, following a Special Court order on September 25. The order of the Special Court came a day after the High Court upheld the sanction granted by Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot to conduct an investigation against the CM. The Enforcement Directorate has also registered an Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR), equivalent to an FIR by police, against the chief minister over the alleged irregularities in allotment of 14 sites to his wife by the MUDA.

> **“All of us should try to conduct ourselves in keeping with our conscience, whether others like it or not, whether they oppose or appreciate**

In an online post earlier today, the Chief Minister said: “In a world full of communalism, dictatorship and violence, only Mahatma Gandhi, the embodiment of truth, peace and non-violence, can lead us by the hand.” “Bapu’s life and thoughts have given me courage, strength and hope even in my current struggle of facing the real test of truth. Happy Gandhi Jayanti to all the people of the country,” he added without referring to the MUDA investigations.

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar too at the Gandhi Jayanti event organised by the party said there is a court of conscience above all our courts.

“....we have to conduct ourselves in accordance with our conscience -- this message of Gandhi, we are reminded today.....” he said. **– PTI**

‘Now it’s wrong to return sites...?’

Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara hit out at the Bharatiya Janata Party for not being ‘consistent’ over their remarks on the alleged MUDA scam.

Addressing a press conference on the MUDA case on Wednesday, he said that the BJP earlier said that it was wrong to accept the disputed sites, but now they are saying it is wrong to return them. “As you’re all aware of the MUDA issue, Mrs Siddaramaiah has decided to return 14 sites. Now, the BJP leaders are saying that it is wrong to return, but accepting was also a mistake,” he said in the press conference.

He further hit out at Karnataka Assembly’s Leader of Opposition, R Ashoka, alleging that certain scams happened during the BJP’s tenure as well. “Specially R Ashoka, He said CM and family were caught after snatching land, R Ashoka spoke in his one language. We came here to give some details about what happened in their tenure. In Lottegollahalli, worth of hundreds of crores scam, we’ll also give details with records,” he added. The Congress minister further confirmed that the Siddaramaiah would not be resigning despite mounting demands by the BJP.

– ANI

Man left bereft as bank refuses to act on unauthorised transactions

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

> **Businessman loses more than Rs 56K to transactions that were done without his knowledge or OTPs**

A businessman from BTM Layout has claimed that money was withdrawn from his bank account without any authorisation from him. He also claims that despite complaining to the bank, there has been no help coming. Nayeem Khan A said he was shocked to notice unauthorised transactions totaling Rs 56,089.76 from his account at the leading private bank. Khan was shocked because he did not initiate the transactions that caused him to lose his hard-earned money. It is said that Khan had reserved that money for emergencies including treatment of his mother.

According to Khan, the unauthorised transaction took place at 2 pm on August 4. “The money was withdrawn in three transactions but I did not receive any OTP on my phone. I received a message stating that the money was withdrawn and it was too late. I immediately took measures to secure my account by blocking it and enabling additional security measures as per the guidance of the bank employees over a call,” said Khan. He said that he was concerned about the breach and the potential implications for his financial security. “I have not made any such requests for withdrawal of money from my account and have not shared the OTP, or received a confirmation call from the bank. As per the rules any transaction should be monitored by the bank but this norm was completely neglected by the bank,” he said.

He claimed that he registered a complaint immediately. “I was promised by the bank that the matter would be taken care of within 4 to 6 weeks, and my money will be recovered and they told me not to worry. They made false promises for such a long time and the problem has not been resolved. The bank has failed to take any actions against those responsible for withdrawing money from the account without my concern,” he said, adding that the bank management has failed to recover the money even after two months of the unfortunate illegal transaction taking place.

Fan murder case: 3 associates of Darshan released from prison

Three associates of jailed Kannada superstar Darshan were released from the Tumakuru prison on Wednesday. The court had granted bail to the three accused persons on September 23. The 15th accused Karthik, 16th accused Keshavamurthy and 17th accused Nikhil were granted conditional bail from the court and they were required to deposit Rs 2 lakh each and provide surety from two persons.

However, the families of these accused persons could not manage to mobilise the money and the surety. The families were struggling to complete the formalities for nine days and they finally got released on the 10th day after getting bail. The accused had surrendered before the police on June 10 claiming that they had killed Renukaswamy with the help of other individuals. They were accused of taking Rs 5 lakh to make a false confession, as they were promised “big money”. The accused allegedly took the money at the shed where Renukaswamy was tortured and murdered.

When the police questioned them after their surrender, they had revealed the names of Darshan, Pavithra Gowda and others. **– IANS**

Chinese garlic glut in market worry Karnataka farmers

The Chinese-grown garlic has flooded the tier-two cities and smaller towns and cities in Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada districts, worrying farmers in the region. On Tuesday, the traders and growers had expressed dismay over the Chinese garlic flooding the markets in Shivamogga. Following the complaints by the traders, Udupi Municipal Commissioner, B Rayappa has raided a wholesaler and confiscated five quintals of Chinese garlic from the Agricultural Produce & Livestock Market Committee (APMC) yard in Adi Udupi. He assured the traders that only after ensuring the legitimacy of the Chinese garlic he would release the produce in the market.

Traders said while Indian varieties of garlic are priced at Rs 250 per kg, the Chinese garlic is sold at Rs 50-60 per kg. They added that the customers prefer Chinese garlic as it is bigger and easy to peel and crush. According to APMC officials in Mangaluru, the Chinese garlic has arrived in the market under a trade licence held by the wholesalers. They also said retail traders do not need a special trading license to trade in Chinese garlic. A bulk trader in the old port area, Mohammad Ishaq told PTI that Chinese garlic balances the price level in the market.

Due to the influx of Chinese garlic, the prices of Indian garlic, which is trading at Rs 200-225 per kg, will level off at Rs 175 to 150 per kg, Ishaq added. **– PTI**

Tastes like metal: Researchers point to health risks

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Risk to health

"While chromium, copper, nickel, and cobalt posed medium to high ecological concerns, the quantities of uranium, lead, and molybdenum in water bodies posed low to medium ecological risks.

In contrast to the high cancer risk seen in all water bodies, the non-carcinogenic risk for adults and children is medium to high," noted the researchers.

This study was conducted to probe the water quality, including pH, TDS, and potentially toxic elements (PTEs) concentrations, and the associated environmental and human health implications.

Total dissolved solid levels also display a significant positive correlation with lead, chromium, copper, nickel, and cobalt, suggesting the association of these elements with particulate matter.

Main source of pollution

Industries were the main source of metal pollution (lead, chromium, cobalt, nickel, and copper) in lakes located in the western part of the city. Vehicular traffic was ascertained as the main source of molybdenum in lakes in the center of the city, and geogenic sources led to high levels of uranium in water bodies located in the city's north, east, and south.

The degree of contamination was found to be high in 25% of the lakes, moderate in 10%, and low in 65 % of the 41 lakes studied.

The highest degree of contamination was found in Narasappanehalli Lake in the industrial zone, Deepanjali Nagar Lake, and Govindraj Nagar.

While uranium, lead, and molybdenum displayed a low to medium degree of contamination, other heavy metals (Cr, Co, Ni, and Cu) displayed a medium to high degree of contamination.

Researchers highlighted that non-carcinogenic risk through ingestion of contaminated water is medium to high for adults and children and the carcinogenic risk is high in all water bodies.

"Water from these water bodies is used for domestic and agricultural purposes, exposing large populations to contaminated waters," noted the study published in the Journal of Hazardous Material.

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I, Andanappa S/o Gurushantappa Tambralli R/o 142, 4th Cross Gkw Layout Vijayanagar Bangalore 560040 have changed my name to Andanappa G Tambralli for all purposes.

I, ADAPPA, Residing at No. 2/12-90/12, near Tashil Office Sangameshwara Cly, Lingasugur, Raichur Karnataka Pin - 584122, have changed my name to ADAPPA METI, vide affidavit dated 16/09/2024, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore.

I, Vadakkoott Nanu Achuthan R/O No 13, 2nd E Main, Kalpanachawla Road, Bhoopsandra, Blr-94 changed my name from Vadakkoott Nanu Ezhuthassan Achuthan to Vadakkoott Nanu Achuthan for all future purposes

I Om Bhimashankar Korishetty S/O, Bhimashankar R/o 45 Athani Road Kumbar Oni Ward No 3, Vijayapura Pin: 586102,karnataka,india have changed my name to Om Korishetty.

I, SHWETHA KUMARI SADOJYATAPPA GANGALLI, Residing at No. 2/12-90/12, near Tashil Office Sangameshwara Cly, Lingasugur, Raichur - 584122, have changed my name to SHWETHA KUMARI, vide affidavit dated 14/09/2024, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore.

I, KHUSHBOO SHARAN, D/o Bimlesh, resident at Flat No.401, 4th Floor, No.10 Sapthagiri Nilaya, 8th Cross Gear School Road, Doddakannalli, Bengaluru-560035 Karnataka, have changed my name as KHUSHBOO BIMLESHKUMAR SHARAN vide affidavit dated 01.10.2024 sworn before notary S. Subashini, Bengaluru.

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Oct: 6, 7*, 11, 11**, 12*, 12**, 13*, 14*, 16, 20*

KERALA SPL./ OOTY KODAIKANAL 7/5* DAYS
Oct: 6, 6*, 13, 20, 20*, 27, 27* Nov: 3, 10, 10*, 17, 24

SHIRDI NASIK*/PANCH JYOTHIRLINGA 7 DAYS
Oct: 5*, 6, 12*, 13, 19* 20, 26* Nov: 2*, 3,, 9*, 10, 16*, 17, 23*

ANDHRA PRADESH/HYDERABAD 10/6* DAYS
Oct: 2, 6*, 12, 20*, 23, 27* Nov: 3, 13, 23

GOA SPECIAL*/NAVAGRAHA DARSHAN 5*/4 DAYS
Oct: 14, 16*, 21, 23* 28 Nov: 4, 6*,11, 13*, 18, 25

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CRIME FILES

₹60K gone in Coldplay con

A 27-year-old man loses 60,000 after falling into an online scam while attempting to purchase Coldplay concert tickets on 28 September.

Mukul Madaan, the victim, filed a complaint at the Whitefield police station after searching online for concert tickets and connecting with a stranger who claimed he could provide them. On September 28, Mukul transferred ₹45,000 to the stranger, followed by an additional ₹15,000, bringing the total to ₹60,000. However, he did not receive the tickets or a refund.

Whitefield police have launched an investigation to track down the accused, but the incident highlights the growing trend of online scams, where unsuspecting individuals are duped while attempting to purchase tickets for events. This case serves as yet another reminder of the increasing fraud targeting online buyers. **BMB**

Man held for stabbing

The Whitefield police on Tuesday arrested a 25-year-old BPO employee for stabbing a BMTC conductor following a disagreement over travelling on the footboard of a bus.

The accused, Harsh Singh, a native of Jharkhand, was apprehended by fellow passengers and handed over to the police. The injured conductor, identified as Yogesh, was rushed to a private hospital, where he is currently receiving treatment.

According to police, the incident occurred around 7 pm near Vydehi Circle when Harsh boarded a Volvo bus and stood on the footboard. Conductor Yogesh advised him several times to move inside, citing the danger of travelling on the footboard. When Harsh refused to comply, a heated argument ensued, during which Harsh suddenly pulled out a knife and stabbed Yogesh in the stomach.

Harsh, who was recently terminated from his job on September 20, had been searching for new employment at the time of the incident, police added. The Whitefield police have registered a case of attempted murder. **BMB**

Complaint against priest

A new complaint has been filed against the Gaali Anjaneya Swamy Temple trust, alleging misappropriation of donations. Devotee Mohan PV claimed that priest Srinivasa Ramanuja Bhattacharya B diverted donations into his account via a QR code intended for temple contributions.

Mohan alleged that the QR code displayed at the temple, which visitors use to transfer money as donations, is linked to the priest's account instead of the temple's official account, raising concerns among devotees about financial transparency.

Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP), Byatarayanapura sub-division, stated that the police are investigating both the complaint regarding the misappropriation of funds and the allegations of QR code misuse. "We had issued a notice to the temple trust with regards to the prior allegations but the trust members stated that the video is not real. Despite this, we are looking into the matter. No arrests have been made so far," the ACP added.

No official charges have been filed so far. **BMB**

HEALTH TIP: Studies suggest milk has a cooling effect that coats the stomach lining and oesophagus against heartburn

Cobra pose in yoga strengthens and extends your spine while also increasing blood flow and flexibility

BangaloreMirror 9
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In the shadow of the bully

Being bullied in high school can make teens less optimistic about future

The effects of bullying on teens' mental health are well-documented. But could bullying also shape their future aspirations?

Our latest research reveals that teens who are bullied in ninth grade become more pessimistic about their educational and career prospects beyond high school. Specifically, being bullied increases teens' risk for depression, which leaves them feeling hopeless about the future.

As a developmental psychologist who studies adolescent well-being, I set out to better understand the long-term effects of bullying on teens' expectations for the future. My research team recruited 388 high schoolers who had recently started ninth grade. We asked them to complete surveys every several months for three consecutive years.

Teens who reported being more frequently bullied by peers in ninth grade subsequently reported lower expectations for their future educational and career prospects by 11th grade. That is, bullied teens felt less confident in their ability to achieve their desired level of education, find enjoyable work and make enough money to support themselves after high school.

Students who experienced more bullying in ninth grade were likely to see their future expectations drop by approximately eight percentile points, compared with peers who were not bullied. This drop remains significant even after accounting for factors such as race, gender, socioeconomic status and earlier expectations for academic achievement.

Interestingly, one type of bullying appeared to have an especially negative impact. Adolescents who experienced forms of peer victimization that involve exclusion – being deliberately ignored or left out of group activities – or who experienced damage to social relationships were the worst off. But adolescents who were the targets of overt victimization – such as hitting and kicking or threats and direct name-calling – did not report lower future expectations.

> **Research reveals that teens who are bullied in ninth grade become more pessimistic about their educational and career prospects after high school**

Why does bullying that affects teens' relationships and social reputations dampen teens' optimism for future success? We found that depression plays a role. Teens who experienced this kind of bullying in the ninth grade showed more depressive symptoms by 10th grade. Having greater depressive symptoms in 10th grade was associated with having lower future expectations a year later. Given that peers become increasingly important in adolescence, bullying that directly damages these relationships appears to be particularly insidious.

Why it matters

Past research shows that teens with negative future expectations are less likely to attend college and secure high-level jobs in adulthood. Our findings suggest that bullying at the beginning of high school may start a cycle of hopelessness and pessimism about later educational and career prospects. Investing in proven strategies to prevent bullying, such as programs that promote bystander intervention and offer targeted support for victims, has already been shown to improve young people's health and could also help break this cycle.

What's next

We plan to conduct additional surveys with the young people who participated in our research as they transition to college and the workforce in the coming years. By doing so, we hope to identify the best ways to intervene to prevent bullying and its effects. Our ultimate goal is to ensure that all adolescents feel confident in their potential to thrive as adults.

(Hannah L Schacter, Wayne State University, The Conversation)

MIRRORLIGHTS

Study says diagnostic errors can occur in 1 in every 14 hospital patients

Diagnostic errors are likely to be occurring in as many as 1 in every 14 (7 per cent) hospital patients which requires new approaches to medical surveillance, a new study has stressed.

The study, published online in the journal BMJ Quality and Safety, said that 85 per cent of these errors are likely preventable and underscore the need for new approaches to improving surveillance to avoid these mistakes from happening in the first place.

The most frequent diagnoses associated with diagnostic errors included heart failure, acute kidney failure, sepsis, pneumonia, respiratory failure, altered mental state, abdominal pain and hypoxaemia (low blood oxygen levels).

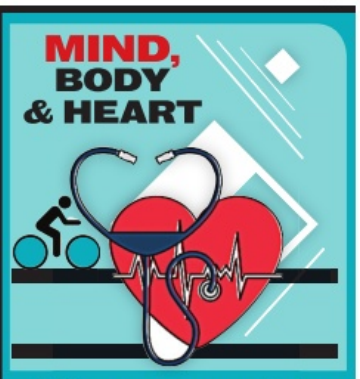
According to the study, cases deemed to be at high risk of diagnostic error were categorised as transfer to intensive care 24 or more hours after admission, death within 90 days of admission either in hospital or after discharge and complex clinical issues but no transfer to intensive care or death within 90 days of admission.

"Complex clinical issues included clinical deterioration, treatment by several different medical

teams, unexpected events such as cancelled surgery, unclear or discrepant diagnostic information recorded in the medical notes," the findings showed.

Harm was classified as minor, moderate, severe, and fatal, and whether the diagnostic error contributed to the harm and whether it was preventable were also assessed. Cases with discrepancies or uncertainty about the diagnostic error or its impact were further reviewed by an expert panel. Among all the cases reviewed, diagnostic errors were found in 160 cases (154 patients). These comprised intensive care transfer (54), death within 90 days (34), complex clinical issues (52) and low risk patients (20).

The study authors wrote that an estimated 85 per cent of harmful diagnostic errors were preventable, with some sections of society most at risk. **–IANS**



All you need to know about...

Bold red lip look

Prep
Prepping your skin is always an important step before applying makeup – you want to start with a clean dry face, and then gently massage in a moisturiser. Next, apply an illuminating primer, and dab a bit of lip balm on your lips.

Foundation
Apply a lightweight foundation on your face using a foundation brush. Mist your beauty sponge with a setting spray and gently blend the foundation in to give yourself that second skin-like finish. Next, tap a creamy concealer into any areas that need coverage. Blend again.

Brows have it
To get perfectly-defined brows; use a brow pencil to fill in any bald spots. Push the hairs upwards and set the brows with a clear brow gel. Gently heat an eyelash curler under a blow dryer for 10 seconds, and then use it to curl your lashes. This will give your curl a better hold. Use a liquid liner to draw a thin wing across your lid. Finish with multiple coats of a lengthening mascara.

Highlight
Using your fingers, apply a liquid highlighter on your cheekbones, and tap it into your skin. Then, sweep on powder highlighter over it using a large fluffy brush.
For a well-defined pout, start by lining your lips with a red lip pencil. Ensure the tip is sharp. Fill in with a creamy red hue. Dab a tissue on your lips to absorb any excess, then add a bit of gloss.
Finally, spritz on a setting spray to ensure your makeup stays put.

–Karen Alfonso, Femina

mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
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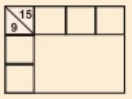
@BangaloreMirror

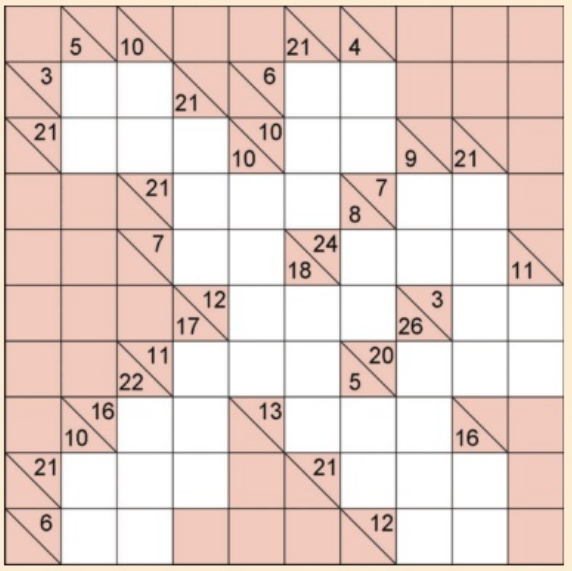
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

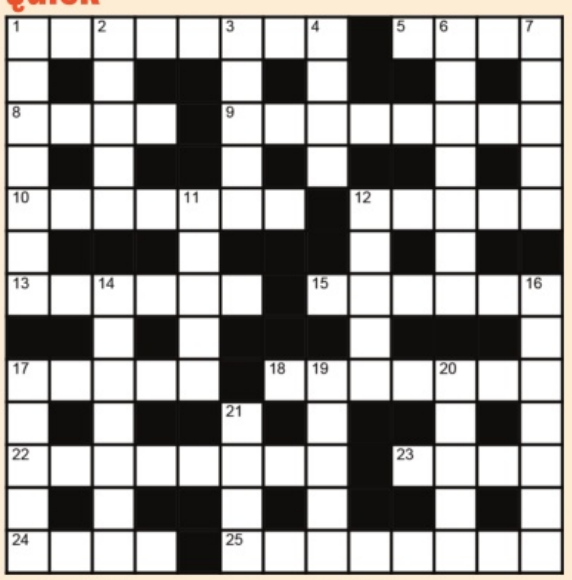


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Screening off or cutting out (8)
5 Figure of worship (4)
8 Egg-shaped (4)
9 Small kitchen measure (8)
10 What has Fate __ ___ for you : what will your future be? (2,5)
12 Pertaining to the sun? (5)
13 Bangalore lake–"Blab he" anagram (6)
15 _____ and bobtail : riff-raff? (6)
17 Courageous (5)
18 Narrow fissure (7)
22 Chinese orange (8)
23 Scottish port (4)
24 Kinds, types or sorts (4)
25 Partition in a ship (8)

DOWN

1 Rather rude and uncouth (7)
2 Iraqis or Saudis (5)
3 Bury; prefix meaning 'between' (5)
4 Snatch or seize (4)
6 Tiny quantity of liquid (7)
7 Type of eclipse (5)
11 Native American tribesman (5)
12 Scenic view (5)
14 Hippie (7)
16 Gathered harvesters' leavings (7)
17 Winsome deer (5)
19 Relating to the kidneys (5)
20 Inculcate (5)
21 Of a dull colour (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: W EQUALS P

WTIWYT CLI TPVIS BTTQNPZF FLIAYU PIQ JT NP DLEMZT IG EPSQLNPZ.

Linemaro

You know what you would really look beautiful in?
My arms

Mindchow

If your friends don't make fun of you, they are not really your friends

Joke of the day

You are sittin' at your computer working on something really important. And then you think, 'Man, I wonder if Home Alone 2 made more money than Home Alone 1. I gotta look into this. NOW.

Loop

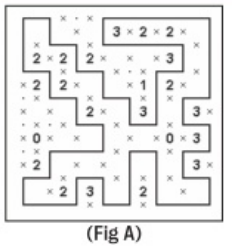
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

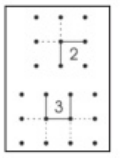
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

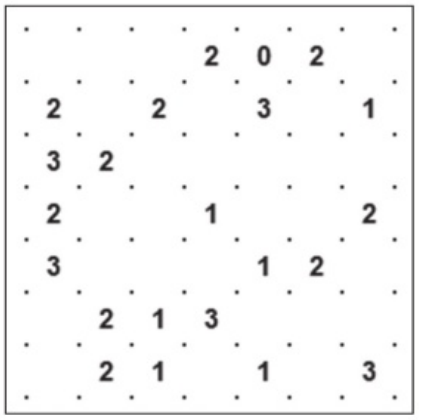
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



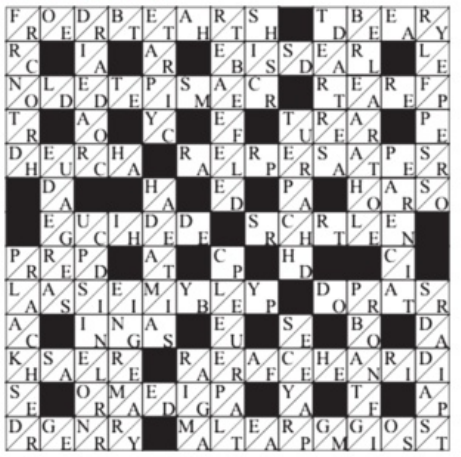
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



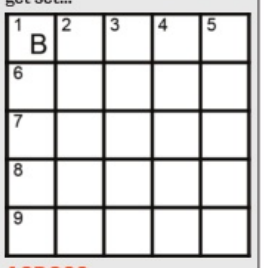
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 R webs; 6 Pearl; 7 Uli Co; 8 To tec; 9 Rosed

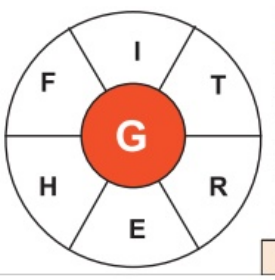
DOWN

1 Do rob; 2 E croc; 3 Lu Tee; 4 Real W; 5 TSP is

Mensapuzzle

Solve this rebus:

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

09 Average; 10 Good; 12 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

				9			3	
			1			7	8	
3					5	1		9
			4		3		9	7
		1	7		9	8		
5	9		8		2			
7		3	5					1
	8	9			6			
	2			4				

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 11
3 7 8 9

Medium = 25
4 5 8 8

Hard = 54
6 6 9 6

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

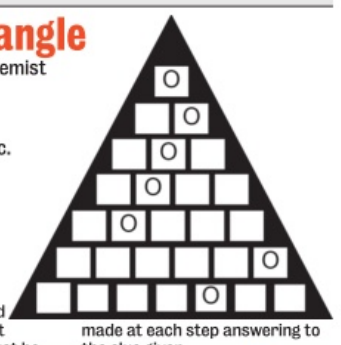
Differences: 1. Mug is reversed. 2. Man's hair is different. 3. Chair is missing. 4. Table is larger. 5. Leaf is added to plant. 6. Pajama shirt collar is different.

Riddler

I am not a king, I am not a queen But most of you will bow when I'm seen Currently I am resting on my side But soon I will continue my stride I can't walk, run, fly or crawl Yet I am the greatest traveller of all What am I?

Alpha triangle

1 Oxygen for the chemist
2 Infinitive word
3 Auction item
4 Boor
5 Shed feathers, etc.
6 Of last month
7 Mayhem

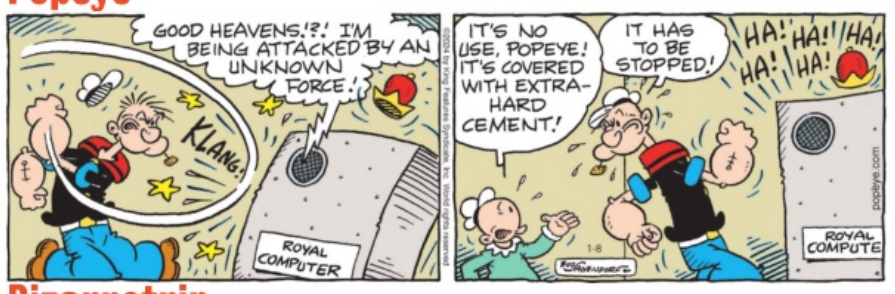


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

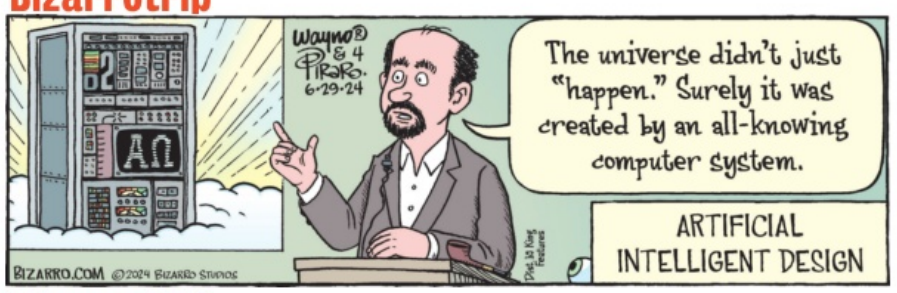
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye


GOOD HEAVENS!?! I'M BEING ATTACKED BY AN UNKNOWN FORCE!
KLANG!
ROYAL COMPUTER
IT'S NO USE, POPEYE! IT'S COVERED WITH EXTRA-HARD CEMENT!
IT HAS TO BE STOPPED!
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
ROYAL COMPUTE
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip

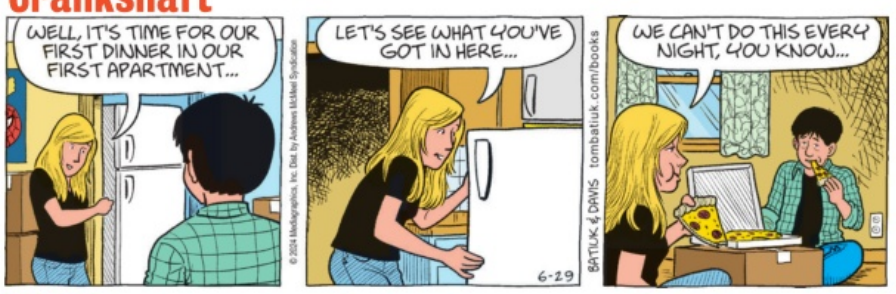

Wayno & Piraro 6-29-24
The universe didn't just "happen." Surely it was created by an all-knowing computer system.
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENT DESIGN
BIZARRO.COM ©2024 BIZARRO STUDIOS
Dist. by King Features

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

ISN'T IT A LITTLE SPOOKY SPENDING TIME IN A CEMETERY?
IN LOVING MEMORY
NAH. AFTER WE ALL TRIED GHOST HUNTING, I STARTED COMING HERE. IT'S KIND OF NICE THINKING HE CAN HEAR ME.
IN LOVING MEMORY
THE GOTH TEENS, ON THE OTHER HAND, ARE VERY SPOOKY.
@COMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


WELL, IT'S TIME FOR OUR FIRST DINNER IN OUR FIRST APARTMENT...
LET'S SEE WHAT YOU'VE GOT IN HERE...
6-29
WE CAN'T DO THIS EVERY NIGHT, YOU KNOW...
tombatiuk.com/books

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon. Work-related pressure may be reduced. Your earnings may convert into profits now. You are likely to invest for a long-term period. You may get an overseas work order, which may give you financial benefits in the coming future. You may find your soulmate. Students may hear good news in their academics.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you are blessed by a positive moon and Jupiter, which may help you to improve your inner strength. You are likely to get some new opportunities for your business and work, which will pay you in terms of gains in the near future. Couples may hear good news in terms of childbirth. Lovebirds are advised to be clear in their opinion with each other to make their future bright.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may have good patience; meditation may help you to increase concentration, which will speed up your project. Your subordinates may cooperate with you; it may help you to complete the project before time. There may be some short trips related to work. You may likely meet an influential person who may help you boost your business.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you are blessed by a positive moon; you may perform well in your professional front. You may implement your business plans very easily with the help of your colleagues. Intellectual investments and financial investments may start giving profits now, which may increase confidence levels. You may use your wisdom to gain benefits.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon. Things are now under control. Your performance may be praised by your seniors, and you may expect promotions. Money that was stuck is likely to be recovered now; it may help in increasing liquidity in the business. There may be some good news in terms of legal matters. In the partnerships, many issues are likely to be resolved now.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may spend money to buy some creatives or artefacts to renovate your house, which may increase your social status. You may implement some new plans into your family business; it will pay you in terms of gains in the near future. You may also be busy with family or social get-togethers.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you are blessed by the moon. Your spiritual power may make you happy. Your way of thinking may be positive. You are also inclined to spiritualism today, so you may plan to visit some religious places. You may also take an interest in occult science. You are likely to observe flawlessness in your nature. It is advised to keep your views with you only; try to discuss with those who may understand your feelings.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today is a good day. You may hear good news in terms of a job. Job seekers may be focused on cracking entrance exams with the help of hard work. Singles may hear good news in terms of their marriage. Couples may have some good news in terms of childbirth.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today is a good day for you. You may have good vitality and health. You may enjoy your work. You are advised to avoid arguments on worthless topics; otherwise, there may be some disputes in the family. Job seekers may find a suitable job. Lovebirds are advised to avoid making arguments on worthless topics.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may feel nervous, you may be impatient, and you may be seeking peace. You may be attracted to the occult. It is advised to follow your intuition before going ahead. You may also get in-depth knowledge on a subject, or you may have a good focus on your research. Chanting a mantra may help you in this situation.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may plan for a change in place, but it is advised to postpone the decision related to migration. It is also advised to avoid investment in business. Dull feelings may make you upset. By the late evening, the situation may be under control. With the help of good advice from one of the elders, you may control the messy situation.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you are affected by a negative moon. You may feel unhappy, you may become impatient today, and you may find it difficult to perform your task and not be able to fulfil your desires. You may also want to be detached from the given responsibilities. You may not be able to complete any task.

KIDZONE

Nandika Bagaria, Bengaluru

Ayesha Arbin, Bengaluru

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Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
((5.6) / (7.2)) =
(3÷(6/10)) × (1/(7÷(2/10)))
(3÷(3/5)) × (1/(7÷(2/10)))
(18/5) × (1/(7÷(2/10)))
(18/5) × (1/(7÷(1/5)))
(18/5) × (1/(36/5))
= 1/2

BULL'S EYE
eight, fight, FIGHTER, tiger FREIGHT, Freight, gift, gift, girt, girth, grief, grit, right,

FAST FIVE

B	R	E	W	S
R	E	L	A	P
O	C	U	L	I
O	C	T	E	T
D	O	E	R	S

(9.6) x (1/2) + (0.8) – (0.1)
(4.8) + (0.6) – (0.1)
(5.4) – (0.1)
= 5.3

STRIKE OUT

D	E	N	Y		A	L	A	R	M	I	S	T		

QUICK

I	L	K	S		B	U	L	K	H	E	A	D		
B		I			A			U			E			
M	A	N	D	A	R	I	N		O	B	A	N		

SUDOKU

8	1	4	2	9	7	6	3	5
9	5	6	1	3	4	7	8	2
3	7	2	6	8	5	1	4	9
2	6	8	4	1	3	5	9	7
4	3	1	7	5	9	8	2	6
5	9	7	8	6	2	4	1	3
7	4	3	5	2	8	9	6	1
1	8	9	3	7	6	2	5	4
6	2	5	9	4	1	3	7	8

MENSA PUZZLE
wiggle-room

RIDDLER
A coin on the floor.

QUOTE UNCODE
People who enjoy meetings should not be in charge of anything.

ALPHA TRIANGLE
0, To, Lot, Lout, Mouth, Ultimo, Turmoil.

GO FIGURE
Easy
3 – 8 + 9 + 7 = 11
Medium
5 + 4 + 8 + 8 = 25
Hard
6 / 6 x 9 x 6 = 54

LOOP

KAKURO

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Walkers, are you ready for this?

Ready and how... that's how excited Bengaluru is with 1 day left for sensational concert of the year

For Alan Walker, it all started with a laptop. All he wanted to do was create music to the world. And he began doing just that in 2012. Right from his home through YouTube and SoundCloud. The British-Norwegian record producer and DJ found fame with his 2015 single Faded. Faded topped the charts in several countries and Walker walked right into the hearts of zillions of electro house lovers. Faded garnered over a 1,3 billion Spotify streams and 2,9 billion YouTube video views. Being the 19th most-watched music video on YouTube, the single also left Walker with a BRIT awards nomination for Song of the Year, as well as a Norwegian Grammy win.

In 2015, 'Spectre' and 'Force' made sure he became an unstoppable force. His string of successful singles continued with Alone and Darkside. The artist has collaborated with other peers like Ava Max, Noah Cyrus, Sia, Bruno Mars and Coldplay. His chart-topping debut album Different World arrived in 2018.

Walker has sold out four arena tours in three different continents, making him a evangelist of good music.

The musician is in India now and according to an interview with TOI's Raima Ganguly, for him each tour is influenced by the culture of the audience.

While some are high on energy, others sway to emotions. With Bengaluru all set to witness this phenomenon on October 4, one thing is for sure — there will be a lot of energy and lots of emotions too.